

# A FUNKTIONAL FEAST



ASIA-PACIFIC

Despite having worked with Funktion One for a little while, Team 108 has yet to 'officially' announce its appointment as the distributor for Singapore and the neighbouring regions. But now with some flagship installations under its belt, the well respected company is ready to shout about it.



## MEAT SMITH



SINGAPORE  
ASIA-PACIFIC

Originally from Perth, Australia, culinary extraordinaire Dave Pynt moved to Singapore three years ago to help set-up an Australian-style barbeque restaurant in a premises on Teck Lim Road. Burnt Ends offers casual dining with seating at a countertop table looking directly into the open kitchen, a concept that has proved a hit among the Singaporeans, and that is no easy feat in a market that boasts a plethora of dining outlets. With a successful restaurant in the bank, Dave decided it was time to take on a new challenge and this came in the form of an American smokehouse restaurant named Meat Smith, which resides on Telok Ayer Street. A Blacksmith-style

interior makes for intriguing décor, particularly the traditional stools that occupy the bar area, together with an informal atmosphere and delicious food, Meat Smith oozes cool kid glamour. To fully accentuate the rockabilly, smokehouse blues and California rock musical genre that Dave was keen to deliver at the restaurant, he wanted a high-end sound system to create the desired ambiance. "I don't know a huge amount about sound but I've got a mate with a bar in London, who DJs a lot, we were talking and he was like 'I can help with this', so we went back and fourth and in the end we got what we wanted," explained Dave. "For me, having good

• Above Meat Smith is an American smokehouse restaurant.

sound in a restaurant is paramount. When you've got 2,500-3,000 customers a month listening to the sound system, it has to be good quality." What Dave wanted was Funktion One and so he made contact with the new distributor in Singapore, Team 108. Due to the low ceilings and the rafters, it was vital the correct system design was implemented at Meat Smith. After a couple of design alterations, it was decided that six Funktion One F81 loudspeakers distributed around the room was the best solution. "The system is very filling," continued Dave. "It doesn't bounce straight out of the door and then run down the road, it just stays where it's



meant to stay, producing a great energy throughout the space.”  
 The six cabinets are supplemented by a single Funktion One BR118 subwoofer, which does come into play night by night, but is also there to give the sound system added bass during parties, which usually take place once a month. Team 108 Technical Director, Mark James Tan said: “The sub placement was the biggest challenge. In a restaurant, you’re really trying to maximise the floor space and essentially there could be another table where the sub is placed, however, after hearing the system with the sub, Dave knew it was worth sacrificing two seats. You can move all around the room and there are no dead spots.”  
 Dave added: “It turns into a proper party and the music is loud, but you don’t have to worry about breaking the speakers or blowing the sub because it can handle it.” The Full Fat Audio FFA 4004 amplifier to power the system is tucked away in the corner of the VIP area, however, the restaurant manager doesn’t even need to go near it because remote volume controls have been installed in the bar area. “The FFA amplifiers were deployed when Dave auditioned the system and he was so amazed with what he experienced and was even further ➔

#### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

##### SOUND

6 x Funktion One F81 loudspeaker; 1 x Funktion One BR118 subwoofer; 2 x Quest MS801 loudspeaker; 2 x Full Fat Audio FFA 4004 amplifier

[www.meatSmith.com.sg](http://www.meatSmith.com.sg)

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• Left The FFA amplifiers.

• Below The Funktion One BR118 subwoofer.



impressed when the compact system delivered party mode levels beyond his expectations. In short, he heard it - loved it and insisted on it," added Kevin of Team 108.

Working with Team 108 has been a great experience for Dave, he said: "Seriously, we had no problems. They said they'd do things and they got them done on time and efficiently. There was always good communication. And since we've put in the sound system at Meat Smith, they've been very generous and allowed us to borrow DJ tables for our parties, which for me is huge in terms of building strong relationships."

In addition to the main Funktion One system, a couple of Quest MS801 loudspeakers powered by another Full Fat Audio FFA 4004 amplifier are installed outdoors at the front of the restaurant, where there is additional seating.

Part of the Unlisted Collection Group of hotels and restaurants - comprising three hotels and 17 restaurants - Meat Smith might be one of a kind but the likelihood of Dave being involved in yet another eatery opening in the not too distant future is strong. Look out for which direction he'll take next. ➤



## VANITY / SUITE 26



SINGAPORE  
ASIA-PACIFIC

Men of a military age in the late '60s will remember Beach Road Camp, a collection of buildings that new recruits reported to before being enlisted to the army. While much of the army complex was demolished in line with modern day army recruitment procedures, three buildings remained and have recently been transformed into a hospitality and entertainment resort.

The South Beach development comprises a new 654-room five-star hotel - designed by famous French designer, Philippe Starck - office spaces, restaurants, bars and clubs. The latter are housed in a pris-

*Above Vanity has a striking black and gold interior, which the F101's blend into well.*

tine white, two-storey building, formerly known as Block 1 - where weapons were once kept - and today known as South Beach Quarter, which is run by lifestyle group Massive Collective.

Lounge bar, Vanity boasts an old-school glamour theme complete with luxurious powder rooms that have really set tongues wagging. A bridge separates this and members-only club, Suite 26, which has a bar stocked with high-end liquor brands, a central dancefloor and DJ booth surrounded by VIP booths. Vatos Urban Tacos, a popular Korean-Mexican restaurant brand from South Korea is also at home at South Beach Quarter, and gastropub The Armory will soon complete the line-up.

Massive Collective was on the lookout for a new space in order to expand its portfolio - which already includes Empire, Bang Bang, Rootz and Sear to name just a few - and wanted a venue that could accommodate up to 300 people. So, when

South Beach Quarter became available, it was the perfect fit. Vanity and Suite 26 are both new brands but Massive Collective Director, Philip Poon and John Bosco Lopez aka Funk Guru, wanted to ensure people knew they were part of the group, in order to entice guests.

With a target audience of young professionals, the design for the new lounge and club were similar to that of Massive Collective's first club, Philip explained further: "It was a very popular club in its day, so with this new build, we decided to implement the same layout, the same seating, everything. We wanted to bring back some of that atmosphere."

John Bosco added: "We wanted the design to be glamorous, elegant. We selected an opulent black and gold theme for Vanity with a clean, modern twist. At the half way point in the design process, we invited Team 108 to come in, so they could combine the design with the audio requirements. Having known of Team



• Right The Power Room at Vanity.

• Right Vanity's entrance.



108 for so many years and the fact that they are still around and come highly recommended says enough of our choice of vendor. We've made the mistake before of carrying out the design first and then looking at where to place the speakers." There are different music policies for Vanity and Suite 26, the former plays hip hop and r 'n' b, while the latter is more focused on EDM. Kevin of Team 108 explained how he got the gig: "As the biggest EDM club operator in Singapore, Massive Collective had received a number of requests to consider Funktion One. So, we were invited to facilitate a demo shootout with their newly-installed system in their flagship outlet. Only a pair of Res 2 and BR218's were deployed against a much larger system. "Within minutes of the A-B comparison shootout, Funktion One's output efficiency, extended audio bandwidth performance and ability to talk comfortably baffled Massive Collective's team of evaluators. After going through an assortment of tracks familiar to the evaluating team, it was all smiles and we were officially invited to put in a bid for their newest outlet - Suite 26." Successfully winning the shootout also led to Team 108 spec'ing Vanity too. Philip was quick ▶

*"At the half way point in the design process, we invited Team 108 to come in, so they could combine the design with the audio requirements."*

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

### VANITY

#### SOUND

6 x Funktion One F101 loudspeaker; 3 x Funktion One BR1 18 bass unit; 2 x FFA-6004 Class-D amplifier with DSP

[www.massiveint.com/nightlife/vanity](http://www.massiveint.com/nightlife/vanity)



to state that Funktion One was competitive against other bids.

Without any specific brief and with only a basic hand sketch, the preliminary system for Suite 26 was designed and configured by Mike Ingglesden of Funktion One. The final system comprises four Funktion One Res 2's supplemented by two Funktion One BR218 bass enclosures for the main PA, as well as two Funktion One F101 loudspeakers and a further four BR218's and two Funktion F1201's for DJ monitoring. "There were no issues with having the two BR218 sub bunker below DJ console, as it ensured low end for the room. To avoid issues with the interior designer's furniture layout and floor space constraints, the supporting four BR118 were suspended from the ceiling," added Kevin.

Funktion One's John Newsham flew in from the UK to tune the system, he said: "Tuning was pretty easy in the main room, I checked everything for polarity and adjusted the hanging angles of the Res 2's and F101's a little then did a time alignment by ear to get the system sounding in time as a whole. Once this was, it's as if the sound just follows you around the room. A well-timed system is less likely to need EQ and, in fact, we didn't use any. We went back later at night when the club was open and made a few small final tweaks, the system sounded really

• Above The DJ booth at Suite 26 is centrally located and is surrounded by VIP booths.

*"We went back later at night when the club was open and made a few small final tweaks, the system sounded really good, loud, clean, strong and involving - the owners were extremely pleased."*

good, loud, clean, strong and involving - the owners were extremely pleased." The sound system in Vanity needed to be more discreet due to it having more of a lounge-style concept. The owners ideally wanted the boxes to be hidden from the normal line of sight. Six Funktion One F101's have been deployed around the periphery of the room, with low end taken care of by three Funktion One BR118 subwoofers. John continued: "The second room needed the same treatment, re-angling and timing, to accommodate for the speaker positions allowed by the architect. They called this the ladies room, so I think it's aimed primarily at girls out together and wanting to chat, have fun and a drink, not so much a dance music club."

Systems in both rooms are powered by FFA amplifiers, five of the new FFA-6004's and a single FFA-1000 in Suite 26, alongside two Funktion One XO4A loudspeaker management systems, and two further FFA-6004's for Vanity. "It was an obvious choice after the shootout - since it delivered beyond the owners' expectations - to go for FFA and it has been doing an excellent job since it was installed," said Kevin.

After starting the collaboration with Funktion One, Team 108 was keen to establish some flagship venues within the region as a way to mark and announce




• Left A full dancefloor at Suite 26.

• Below John Bosco Lopez and Massive Collective Director, Philip Poon.

the distributorship and with these three venues, the company has done just that. Speaking of the new appointment, Business Development Manager at Funktion One, Bill Woods said: "When I joined Funktion One three years ago one of my objectives was to appoint suitable distributors in certain key territories. Although Singapore is geographically quite small, I had always felt it to be very influential in the South Eastern Asian market. During a few visits to the territory, I met different distributors and finally met the guys from Team 108, who immediately understood the opportunity that existed for our brand in the territory and who displayed the skill set, and logistics I was looking for, as well as sharing our passion for audio quality.

"We agreed that Funktion One should design the systems based on information provided by Team 108 and the client. Funktion One is a very hands-on company, especially when it comes to system designs - and this strategy has helped to ensure that the award winning Funktion One sound is delivered consistently. Team 108, having discussed and agreed the design objectives with the client

locally, would then take care of the local installation and after sales service. This strategy has brought us success in other key territories.

"We were delighted to have been approached for Suite 26 and Vanity. It's quite early days but our strategy seems to be working with more projects in the pipeline in Singapore as well as other countries in the region." iConic in Bangkok, the Red Room & Skullduggery Lounge in Kuala Lumpur, N30 an.t.t @ CHIMJES (formerly known as Rakes) and Rebel Decibel in Singapore are just some of the projects on the horizon. 



## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

### SUITE 26

#### SOUND

4 x Funktion One Res 2 loudspeaker; 4 x Funktion One BR118 bass unit; 2 x Funktion One F101 loudspeaker; 2 x Funktion One F1201 loudspeaker; 2 x Funktion One BR218 bass unit; 6 x Funktion One F81 loudspeaker; 2 x Funktion One XO4A loudspeaker management system; 5 x FFA-6004 Class-D amplifier; 1 x FFA-1000 amplifier

[www.massiveint.com/nightlife/suite26](http://www.massiveint.com/nightlife/suite26)